



CORRECTIONS *Guide*

A handbook for families and friends
of persons in custody and under supervision

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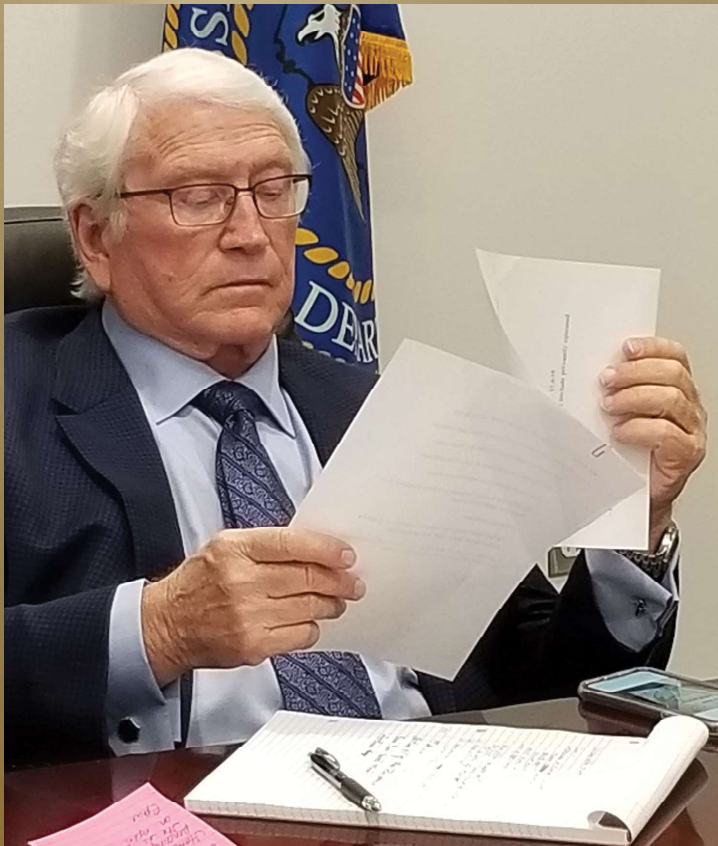
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Commissioner Burl Cain

Nathan “Burl” Cain is a renowned correctional professional known for his transformative and innovative work in the Louisiana prison system during a storied career spanning more than 40 years. Gov. Tate Reeves appointed him as Commissioner for the Mississippi Department of Corrections effective May 21, 2020.

Cain retired from the Louisiana Department of Corrections (LDOC) after leading an evolution of change at the Louisiana State Penitentiary (LSP), once known as the “Bloodiest Prison in America.” Under his 21 years of leadership, LSP, the state’s only maximum security prison, became one of the safest, most secure, and progressive maximum security prisons in the nation. The prison houses more than 6,300 inmates with more than 4,000 serving life sentences for violent crimes. Two award-winning films about the prison were produced during Cain’s administration. The stories are “The Farm: Angola, USA” (1998) and “The Wildest Show in the South: The Angola Prison Rodeo,”



(1999), which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Short.

In addition to film, Cain’s work at Angola also has been the subject of numerous articles and books. The book *The Angola Prison Seminary* contains evidence-based research from Baylor University substantiating the reduction in violence and other positive effects of the faith-based ministry. Another book is *Cain’s Redemption: A Story of Hope and Transformation in America’s Bloodiest Prison*.

Cain serves as CEO and Founder of Global Prison Seminaries Foundation, a nonprofit organization that promotes positive changing of prison culture through theological education programs in prisons throughout the United States and internationally. Prison Seminary Model programs now exist in 17 states, including Mississippi.

Cain earned a Bachelor of Science degree in vocational agriculture from Louisiana State University and a Master of Science in criminal justice from Grambling State University. Cain is a Certified Corrections Executive through the American Correctional Association and is an Emotional Intelligence Certified Practitioner.



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
BURL CAIN
COMMISSIONER

To the Family and Friends of an Incarcerated Person:

In the Mississippi Department of Corrections, we foster public safety, health, and well-being. We facilitate treatment, education, and job training to equip those in the criminal justice system with the skills they need to contribute to the state's communities both inside and outside of incarceration.

We support victims and less victimization. After all, about 80 percent of individuals who enter prison return to Mississippi's cities and towns. We want to ensure they're good neighbors. Our department prioritizes inmates' relationships and connections to you, their families, and friends, as families are key to successful development and re-entry.

The MDOC recognizes that incarceration is often a difficult time for both the persons serving time and their loved ones. In order to assist you through this stressful time, we have developed the Family and Friends Handbook as a resource that provides a broad overview of the many facets of the Department and aims to answer some of the most frequently asked questions regarding the Mississippi prison system. My hope is that this handbook communicates support from your state, as well as encourages and empowers you to support your incarcerated loved ones in their journey toward renewed citizenship.

Together, we hope to build a partnership that will result in the successful re-entry of your loved ones and the continued safety of our communities.

Together, we can make a difference both inside and outside incarceration.

Sincerely yours,

Burl Cain

Commissioner

Introduction

Almost every inmate is part of a family unit. Therefore, incarceration is not only difficult for an inmate, but also for their families and friends. Separation from your loved one through incarceration can be overwhelming. The Mississippi Department of Corrections understands this and has created a handbook in hopes of aiding you in this journey. This handbook was developed as a resource for basic information regarding rules and regulations governing Mississippi's prison system.

We encourage you to use this resource to assist you in maintaining contact with your incarcerated relative or friend, thus providing support for them and staying informed on their progress.

Please note that this handbook is for informational purposes only and is subject to change. Any changes made in the MDOC's rules, policies, procedures, and state laws will override and supercede the information in this handbook.

Please also note that rules and procedures may vary between facilities within the state. Changes may also occur between publication updates and reprints.

For the most current information please visit the Department of Corrections website: **www.mdcc.ms.gov**



General Contact information

Mississippi Department of Corrections
Central (Administrative) Office

(601) 359-5600
301 North Lamar St.
Jackson, MS 39201

Vol. 1, Issue 1, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance public safety by providing safe and secure facilities, effective supervision, and rehabilitative services that transform lives.

VISION STATEMENT

The Vision of the MDOC is to be a professional organization that is honorable, innovative, and fiscally responsible.

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY — MDOC employees serve as positive role models and conduct themselves professionally through fair, honest, and ethical behavior.

ACCOUNTABILITY — MDOC employees accept responsibility at all levels for decisions, actions, and consequences.

FAIRNESS — MDOC employees perform their duties in a just manner free of discrimination and favoritism.

COMPETENCE — MDOC employees possess the skill, knowledge, qualification, and capacity to perform their duties effectively.

CONSISTENCY — MDOC employees promote and demonstrate uncompromising moral conduct, behavior, and actions in all of our decisions.

Organization

The Mississippi Department of Corrections (also referred to as “MDOC”) is responsible for housing inmates convicted of a felony in circuit courts and sentenced to its custody and care. The MDOC is also responsible for supervising persons convicted of a felony and sentenced by the courts and placed on probation, or in the intensive supervision program (ISP), and those who are released to parole, earned release supervision (ERS), post-release supervision (PRS), and conditional medical release (CMR).

The **Commissioner**, who is appointed by the governor, serves as the Department’s chief executive officer. He or she oversees the MDOC’s four divisions, each directly supervised by a Deputy Commissioner. The **Executive Deputy Commissioner** executes the appropriate duties in the absence of the Commissioner and serves as the Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Finance.

1. **Institutions**, which is where inmates are housed.
2. **Community Corrections**, which provides supervision of individuals outside of corrections facilities, Interstate Compact, and those housed in community-based residential facilities.
3. **Administration and Finance**, which is responsible for human resources, policy, planning, research and evaluation, research statistics, budgeting, fiscal comptroller, procurement, property and warehousing, and agricultural enterprises.
4. **Programs, Education, Re-entry, and Rehabilitation**, which includes treatment programs for incarcerated persons and re-entry services for those transitioning to the community.

A **Deputy Administrator** is also responsible for technology, research statistics, management information systems, and other duties.

Brief History Highlights of Corrections in Mississippi

The first reported prison to house felons was developed in Natchez around 1789. The first centralized prison, later to be called The Walls, was completed 50 years later with the opening of the penitentiary in Jackson, April 15, 1840. The Walls, located on the present site of the current Capitol building, was developed for \$75,000, built with inmate labor and could house 200 inmates. According to historical accounts, 28 prisoners were placed in the new prison on opening day. In 1900, the Legislature appropriated \$80,000 for the purchase of the 3,789-acre Parchman Plantation in Sunflower County. This would eventually become the site of the Mississippi State Penitentiary, which has seen numerous transformations.

The MDOC was created by an act of the Legislature and formed on July 1, 1976, by the merging of the Mississippi Penitentiary Board and the Mississippi Probation and Parole Board. The department began to decentralize by setting up community facilities and restitution centers. During this period, the department also began to recognize and provide for the treatment needs of offenders.

In January 1986, the department opened the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) in Pearl. This was the first major institutional facility to be located away from Parchman. The initial capacity was 667. All female inmates were moved from Parchman to CMCF.

On April 13, 1990, MDOC opened the South Mississippi Correctional Institution (SMCI) in Leakesville. The original capacity was 516. In addition to CMCF and SMCI, the MDOC also opened 17 community work centers and four restitution centers.

Commissioner

*Executive Deputy
Commissioner*
Deputy Commissioner
Admin. & Finance

Budgeting

Fiscal Comptroller

Human Resources

Agricultural Enterprises

Procurement, Property,
& Warehousing

Deputy Administrator

Research Statistics

Grants

Records

Management
Information Systems

Policy, Planning, Research,
and Evaluation

Deputy Commissioner
Institutions

State Prisons

Regional Prisons

Private Prisons

Approved County Jails

Training

Classification
Offender Services

Assistant Deputy
Commissioner

Communications

Constituent Services

Victim Services

Deputy Commissioner
Community Corrections

Community Work Centers

Restitution Centers

Technical Violation Centers

Interstate Compact

Probation & Parole

Transitional Housing

General Counsel
Legal

Deputy Commissioner
Programs, Education,
Re-entry, Rehabilitation

Programs

Education

Re-Entry

Rehabilitation

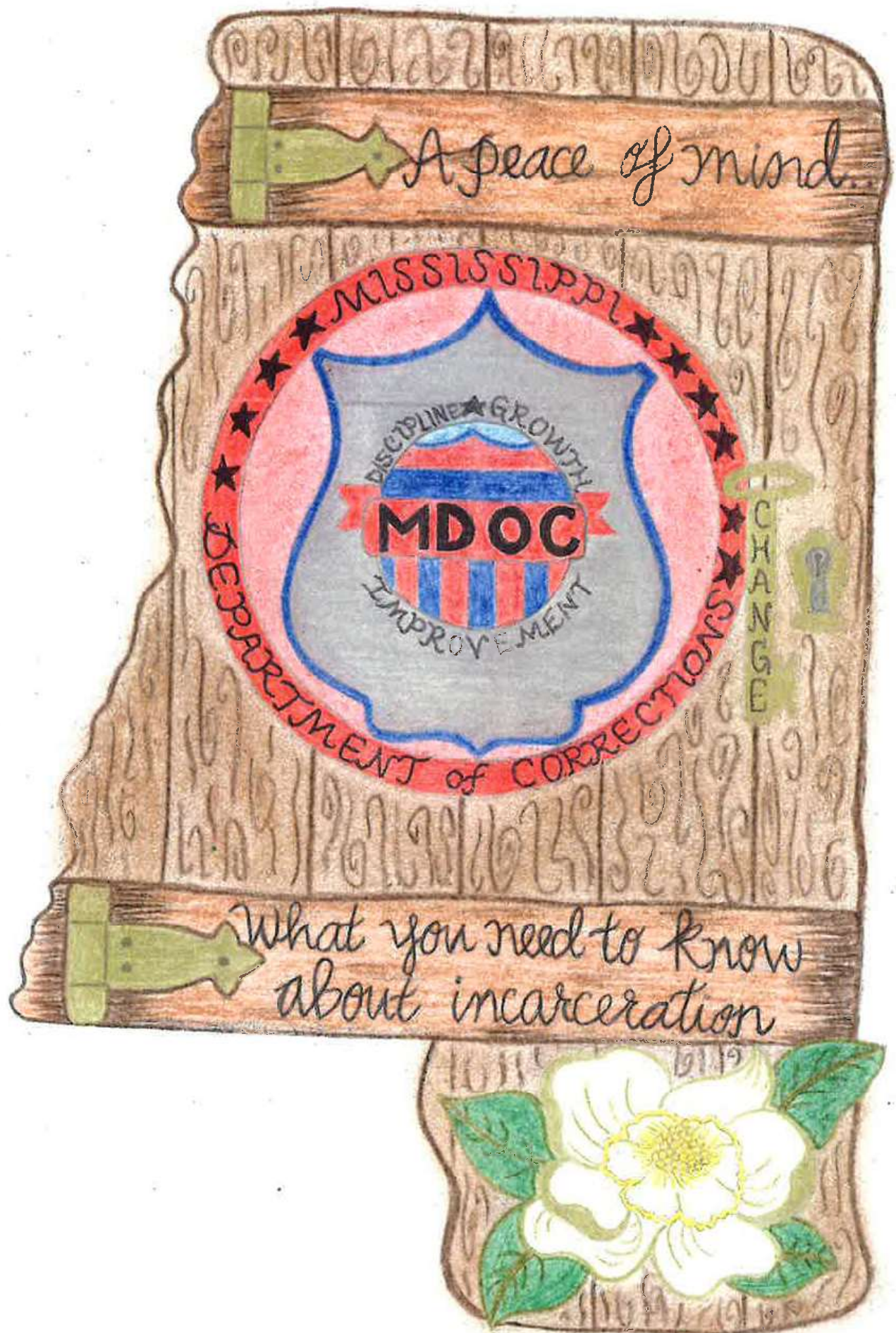
Director
Corrections Investigations

Director
Medical

Health Care

Medical Records

Treatment



Locating an Incarcerated Person

To locate an incarcerated person in the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC):

1. Go to the MDOC web site (*www.mdoc.ms.gov*)
2. Click on Inmate Search
3. Search by name or MDOC Number (*if known*)
4. Location should be listed in the biographical file presented

OR

Contact the MDOC switchboard at **601-359-5600**

****The switchboard operator is located at the Central Office in downtown Jackson, and not at one of the facilities.***

Provide the following information:

1. Full name of the inmate
2. MDOC Number (if known)
3. Date of birth
4. Last four digits of the person's Social Security Number if requested by switchboard operator.

If the switchboard operator is busy with another call and therefore unable to answer, or if you call on a weekend or state holiday when the office is closed, your call may go to voicemail. If your call goes to voicemail, please leave the information listed above in your message in addition to your name and phone number where you can be reached.

OR

Inmate locators at each facility:

1. Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman: 662-745-6611, extension 2439 or 2444.
2. Central Mississippi Correctional Facility, Pearl: 601-932-2880, extension 6216.
3. South Mississippi Correctional Institution, Leakesville: 601-394-5600, extension 1039.

****MDOC personnel are restricted in providing information to non-family members of inmates or offenders. A fiancé, boyfriend, girlfriend, or close friend are not recognized as family members. Please have a family member call for information.***

Because of federal privacy laws, employees are restricted from providing any medical information.

Staying in Touch

The department encourages positive communication among inmates, family members, and friends. As such, MDOC offers several avenues of communication for inmates while incarcerated. Inmates may communicate via regular U.S. mail or telephone. Family members may also send money to inmates in MDOC custody.

Telephone Communication

Personal calls may be monitored and/or recorded for security purposes. Inmates can only make collect calls and inmate telephones are restricted to out-going calls, usually limited to fifteen (15) minutes. Inmate phones do not receive calls.

When an inmate makes a call, the called party is notified that it is a collect call from an inmate at a state prison facility. The called party can accept or refuse the call.

Telephone communication is provided by an outside vendor, Global Tel Link. The customer service number is **1-877-650-4249** for assistance.

The department allows inmates to call approved cell phone numbers under specific guidelines. The called party must set up an account with Global Tel Link and provide primary information. Calls to prepaid cell phones are not allowed. The inmate must have the called party's phone number on his/her approved phone list.

Inmates housed in regional or private facilities must use the phone systems that are set up in those facilities. Inmates may obtain information on how to use the systems from the staff at the assigned facility.

At no time during incarceration will an inmate be allowed to legally possess or utilize a cell phone. Family and friends are warned not to send or bring cell phones to inmates. Doing so will result in prosecution for introduction of contraband into a correctional facility.

Sending mail to inmates

All mail received must be in a legal or letter envelope. Inmates may send and receive mail **with exceptions**. Only a maximum of seven (7) pictures are allowed with each letter, no larger than 5x7 size. Inmates may receive pictures from the following sources: Amazon, Freeprint, Pelipost, and Shutterfly. All persons in photos must be fully clothed.

All incoming and outgoing mail shall be censored only if there is possible evidence of contraband, plans for criminal activity, instructions for the manufacture of weapons, drug, or drug paraphernalia, or alcoholic beverages, threatened blackmail or extortion, coded content not understood by the reader, or activities in violation of MDOC rules.

Items **NOT ALLOWED** for inmates to receive include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Polaroid photos
- Nude, half naked, or explicitly sexual, persons in photos
- Photos showing excess amounts of cash
- Photos of loved ones in a bikini except for on a beach or at a pool
- Photos of other inmates
- Photos of any weapons or any type of alcohol
- Business cards of any type
- Copies of receipts of any kind
- Enclosed envelopes
- Calendars
- Tarot cards
- Tax forms
- Postal stamps
- Money/cash
- Stickers
- Stencil like coloring books
- Drugs
- Metal, glass, hard plastics or wooden items
- Currency, Money orders, receipts of money orders or copies of money orders
- Packages
- Cassettes/video tapes/CD's
- Hardback books
- Food items/hygiene/medical items



Cards must be signed in ink and cannot include glitter or stickers.

- No double-folded cards
- No mechanical devices within cards such as singing cards or any kind of wiring
- No letters or writing paper within cards

*** Writing material, including stamps, must be purchased from Canteen**

Inmates cannot receive or send out any crafts to family. They are allowed only 12 ct. color pencils within a six-month period.

Publications must be pre-paid soft cover back books (limit of 3 per month). All books, magazines, and color pencils must come directly from the publisher. Six (6) newspaper clippings are allowed and no more than two pages of internet copies.

- No orders from Ebay of any type

Subscriptions and newspapers must be sent from the publisher, distributor or vendor.

All non-allowed items will be returned to sender or vendor.

How incoming inmate mail is handled

(Effective May 1, 2021)

Mailroom staff will search incoming mail as set forth in policy. Any incoming mail that does not require special handling, including photographs that staff determine an inmate may receive, shall be photocopied.

After the mail has been photocopied, all of the pages will be accounted for and assured each photocopied page is clear and legible. The front of the envelope the mail came in shall also be photocopied, so the inmate has the return address of the sender.

The photocopies shall then be placed in a reusable envelope that is marked with the inmate's name, number, and bed number. Mail will be delivered to the inmate and the envelope shall be returned to the mailroom for future use. Inmates are not allowed to have the reusable envelope. If there are health and safety concerns, the appropriate superintendent/warden may approve use of single-use envelopes.

Inmates shall notify staff immediately if the mail they receive is not legible, or they believe it to be incomplete. Staff shall then review the mail to confirm that the mail the inmate received is clear, legible, and complete. Staff shall only photocopy the mail again if the mail is unclear, illegible, or incomplete.

The original mail shall be retained for 14 calendar days. After 14 calendar days, the original mail and original envelope shall be placed in a locked bin for shredding. Mailroom staff shall continue to process incoming mail for publications (e.g., books, magazines, newspapers) according to policy.

ALL INCOMING MAIL MUST BE ADDRESSED AS:

Inmate Name & MDOC Number

Current Housing Unit

Institution/Facility Name

Institution/Facility Address

City, State, ZIP Code

and must include a complete return address with the following information:

Sender's Full Name

Current Address

City, State, ZIP

**Mail received without a return address will be sent to the mail recovery center unopened.*

***Only white envelopes and white paper are allowed. No color envelopes of any kind are allowed.*

Outgoing mail from inmates

Outgoing legal or official mail will be sealed by the inmate and will not be opened unless a visual/electronic inspection reveals the envelope may contain contraband.

EXCEPTIONS include:

- Publications must be pre-paid soft cover back books (order limit of 3).
- Subscriptions and newspapers must be sent from the publisher, distributor or vendor.
- Pre-paid publications that depict homosexuality (same as recipient), sadomasochistic, penetration of body orifice, bestiality, and/or involving children are not allowed.

ALL OUTGOING MAIL MUST HAVE A COMPLETE RETURN ADDRESS and include the following:

Senders Name & Inmate Number
Current Housing Unit
Institution/Facility Address
City, State, ZIP

QUESTIONS/CONTACTS

Central Mississippi Correctional Facility
Lakhia Chambers
601-932-2880, ext. 6201
lchambers@mdoc.state.ms.us

Mississippi State Penitentiary
Jasmine Smith
662-745-6611, ext. 2437
JasmineSmith@mdoc.state.ms.us

South Mississippi Correctional Institution
Chasidy Jones
601-394-5600, ext. 1200
chasidyjones@mdoc.state.ms.us



Sending money to inmates

The Mississippi Department of Corrections operates an inmate banking program under a contract with Premier Services, which can be reached by phone or through its internet site. More information can be found on page 31.

601-326-2590

Note: Premier Services opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays.

Premier is open 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays.

www.premier.services

FASTEST WAY TO SEND FUNDS TO MDOC INMATES!

SAVE MONEY!

DEPOSITS

CLICK HERE

IN GOD WE TRUST

Fast and Secure

Online 24/7

Inmate Deposits

MDOC

Offender Payments

Holiday Packages™

Commissary Orders

Website: PREMIER.SERVICES

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Premier.Services

www.PREMIER.SERVICES

Money can also be sent in person through commercial vending options.

Visitation

The Mississippi Department of Corrections recognizes the importance of visitation in maintaining inmate relationships with family and loved ones. Maintaining relationships will not only make inmates' experience while incarcerated more productive, but will also help inmates have a more successful reintegration into society. As such, visitation is an integral part of each institution.

Please see the MDOC website <https://www.mdoc.ms.gov/> for institution-specific visiting information, such as each institution's address and phone number, directions, information regarding local transportation, and visiting days and hours.

Please note that visitation is a privilege, not a right for both the inmate and visitor.

It is very important that all visitors follow guidelines for visitation so that they may continue to see their loved one. Visitation privileges may be revoked for violation of department rules and regulations. Visitation can also be suspended at any time based on conditions inside and outside the facilities.

Visitation Application Process

Inmates are responsible for initiating the visitation application process by sending the Application for Visiting Privileges to persons they wish to see. The visiting person must complete the application and mail it to the MDOC address as indicated in the visitor application package. If the prospective visitor is a minor, his/her parent/legal guardian must complete the application. Inmates may have up to ten (10) visitors on the visiting list. They may add or delete people on their list.

Visitor Identification and Registration upon Entry to an Institution

All visitors will register when they enter an institution. The visitor will provide his/her name, address, and relationship to the inmate. All visitors over the age of eighteen (18) must have valid picture identification with them, such as a driver's license, state ID, or passport.

Dress Code for Visitors

Visiting areas are designed to cultivate a family atmosphere for families and friends of all ages. Visitors must dress accordingly, wearing nothing that poses a threat to the safety, security, or good order and administrative manageability of the facility.

Clothing NOT ALLOWED while visiting includes the following:

- Clothing that exposes bare (or almost-bare) shoulders, such as strapless tops or spaghetti straps;
- Sheer or transparent clothing and clothing that exposes one's stomach, such as crop-tops;
- Overly-tight clothing, such as yoga pants, spandex, etc.;
- Swimsuits, house slippers, or shower shoes (wearing no shoes is also prohibited, unless by a child who is being carried by an adult);
- Exposed undergarments or tops with no undergarments underneath;
- Mini-skirts and cut-off pants;
- Hats or head covering, except those required by religious beliefs;
- Skirts, shorts, dresses, etc. that are shorter than one (1) inch above knee or have deep, revealing slits.

These guidelines are for the protection of visitors and inmates. Abiding by these guidelines will maintain order during visitation for the correctional officer, the inmate, and visitors. Correctional officers will turn visitors away for improper dress, an easily-avoidable issue. Please dress as modestly as possible.

Infants

If a visitor has an infant with him/her, the following items are permitted: four (4) diapers; two (2) plastic bottles of milk, water, or juice; one change of clothing; and one clear plastic bag of baby wipes. These items must be stored in a single clear plastic container, like a zip-lock bag.

Important Notes Regarding Visitation

- Visitors are not allowed to enter the grounds of an institution while intoxicated in any way.
- Visitors are prohibited from bringing contraband or other prohibited items into the institution, such as weapons, alcohol, cell phones, etc.
- Visitors are allowed to bring only enough cash money for vending machines and/or concessions.
- Visitors and personal vehicles may be searched at any time.
- Drug detection canines may be in use at the facility.
- Body scanners are often used at the facilities.
- Visitation will be supervised by staff.
- During contact visiting, inmates and visitors may exchange a brief embrace and kiss upon meeting and leaving. They may also hold hands.
- Inmates who have noncontact visiting are restricted from having physical contact with visitors by a physical barrier, like a screen or glass. Phones or speakers are typically used in these interactions.
- Children must be supervised by an adult visitor.

What will visitation look like?

In general, visitation will look like the following: visitors will drive to the institution and park, leaving prohibited items and personal possessions (wallet, cell phone, purse, etc.) in the locked vehicle. Visitors will walk to the visitation processing center to register and present identification. Visitors may be searched for contraband and/or asked to walk through a body scanner.

Visitors will be told to leave if they do not adhere to the clothing guidelines. Once processed, visitors will be directed to the visitation area and, depending on the facility, may walk there or be taken on a van or bus. Inmates will be notified of their visitors' arrival. Visitors may have to wait for inmates.

If it is a contact visit, visitors will likely be in a cafeteria-type setting. Visitors may be able to purchase food and sit at a table. They will be allowed to touch the inmate in an appropriate manner; such as holding hands. If it is a non-contact visit, visitors will not be allowed to touch but may communicate verbally. Please note that if children are included, visitors are responsible for their behavior.

Visitors are supervised by staff and will be allowed to visit for the allotted amount of time. Staff will signal the end of visitation and participants will return to the visitation processing center. Please see the MDOC website <https://www.mdof.ms.gov/> for more specific information regarding guidelines, protocols, and procedures.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING VISITATION POLICY

Because of special circumstances as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the MDOC suspended all inmate visitation from March 2020 until May 10, 2021. When visitation resumed, temporary policies were implemented in the effort to ease visitation back into operation. As a result, there are special requirements in place.

***Please contact the specific facility where an inmate is located
to check on visitation practices at that location in advance of attending visitation.***

Time Computation and Release

Time computation is a core business function to ensure that the orders of the court are enforced according to Mississippi laws, establishing release and eligibility dates for inmates. The intent of time computation is to record and calculate an inmate's period of incarceration and release date.

Additional factors can impact time calculation including the laws in place at the time a person committed the crime, concurrent or consecutive sentences, time served in jail before the conviction, prior convictions, additional credits earned while in prison, special conditions imposed by a judge and whether a person was sentenced as a habitual offender.

Types of releases include:

- Earned Release Supervision
- Parole
- Tentative Release
- Maximum Discharge

Earned Release Supervision (ERS)

ERS is a program whereby inmates eligible under state law may earn their conditional release to community supervision.

Parole

Parole is a conditional release that involves careful review of information and subjective assessment of risk. Parole Board members review the facts of a case and decide whether an inmate is likely to be successful in the community if released. As of July 1, 2014, inmates with nonviolent crimes must serve 25 percent of the imposed sentence and those with violent crimes must serve 50 percent of their imposed sentence.

Tentative Release Date

The anticipated date that an inmate will be released from incarceration is tentative after the application of adjustments for any time earned or credit for time served.

Maximum Discharge

The maximum discharge date is the expected release date without any allowances for early release. This date is fixed and will not change.

Mississippi Code requires that sentences for certain crimes be served in their entirety. *These crimes are not eligible for parole or ERS release.* This is sometimes referred to as "Day for Day". The discharge date can be shortened only by applying pre-trial jail time.

Reception and Classification

What happens when an inmate first enters prison?

When inmates first enter a state institution, they will be searched. They will be given clean clothing, a haircut (male only) and shower, and a picture ID card will be made. Their property will be searched and inventoried and they will be fingerprinted. Inmates can send home any items not allowed. The Classification, Mental Health, Medical, and Education Departments will evaluate the inmates. After all evaluations are completed, the inmates will be classified and placed in close custody (close supervision) until permanent housing is determined. This process can take between two weeks to 45 days.

Can contact be made with an inmate during the Reception and Classification process?

During the R & C process, inmates will not receive any visits. However, they may have limited telephone calls. The inmate will generate telephone and visitation lists during the R & C process.

Where is the Reception and Classification conducted?

The reception and classification process is conducted at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) in Rankin County near Pearl.

Classification and Custody Level Determination

All inmates are classified according to objective classification instruments and incarceration requirements necessary for protection of public safety, prevention of escape, maintenance of control and order, as well as the safety of staff and other inmates. All inmates undergo a series of assessments to determine their specific needs for placement in appropriate programs.

Custody level refers to the type of housing and level of supervision required for an inmate. Custody assignments reflect public safety as the first priority, staff and inmate safety within the institution as the second priority, and finally, institutional or inmate needs. Other factors include offense, sentence, age, adjustment potential, excessive criminal behavior, escape history, and observable behavior.

Custody levels include Minimum-Community, Minimum-Non Community, Medium, and Close.

Institutional Facility Locations

Mississippi State Penitentiary
Parchman, Sunflower County

**Central Mississippi
Correctional Facility**
Pearl, Rankin County

**South Mississippi
Correctional Institution**
Leakesville, Greene County

**Walnut Grove
Correctional Facility**
Walnut Grove, Leake County

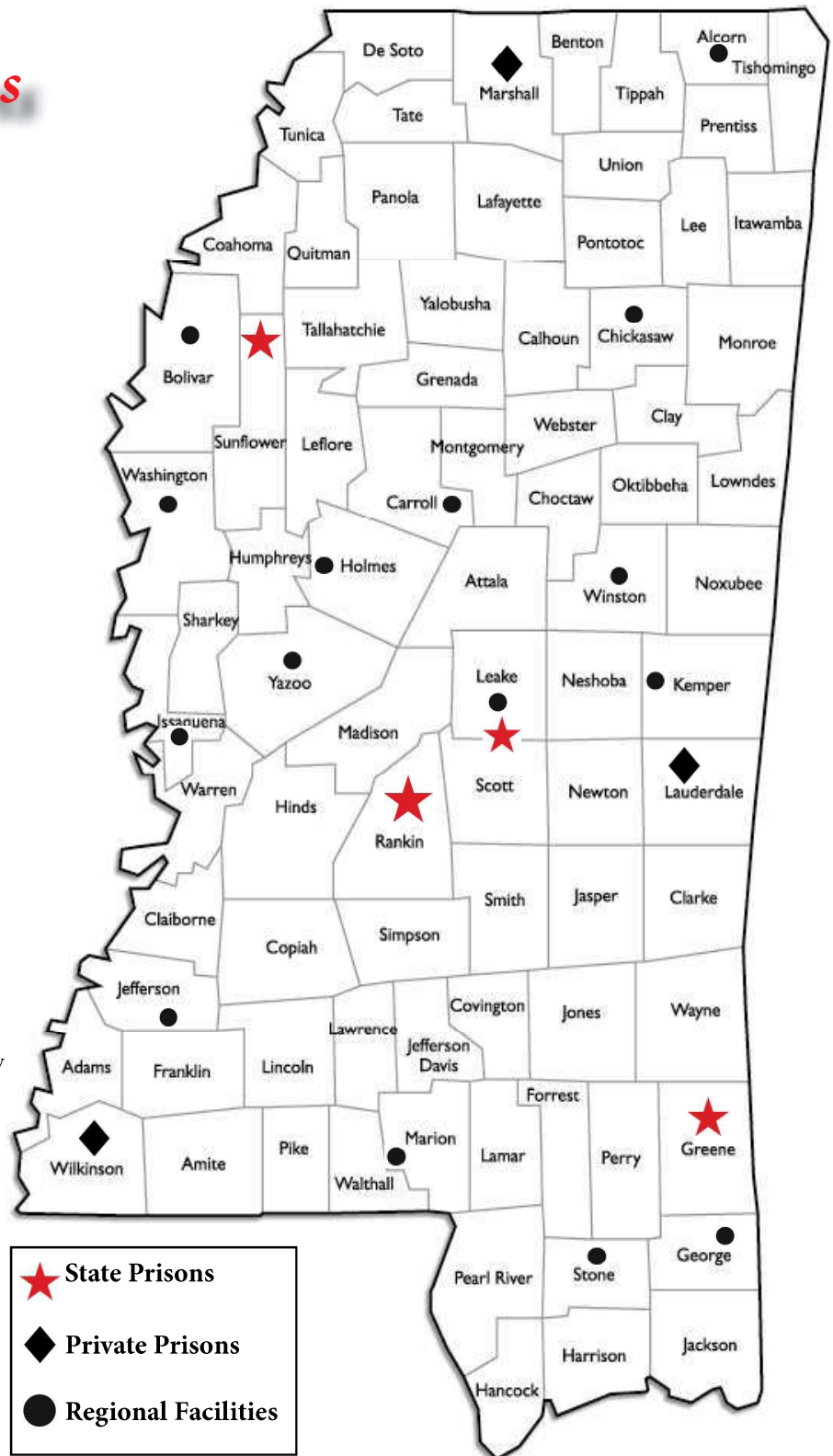
Private Prisons
Marshall County Correctional Facility
Holly Springs, Marshall County

East Mississippi Correctional Facility
Meridian, Lauderdale County

Wilkinson County Correctional Center
Woodville, Wilkinson County

County/Regional Facilities

Alcorn Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Corinth
Bolivar Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Cleveland
Carroll/Montgomery Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Vaiden
Chickasaw Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Houston
George/Greene Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Lucedale
Holmes/Humphreys Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Lexington
Issaquena Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Mayersville
Jefferson/Franklin Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Fayette
Kemper/Neshoba Co. Regional Corr. Facility
DeKalb
Leake Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Carthage
Marion/Walthall Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Cleveland
Stone Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Wiggins
Washington Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Cleveland
Winston/Choctaw Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Louisville
Yazoo Co. Regional Corr. Facility
Yazoo City



*** The Marshall County Correctional Facility in Holly Springs is scheduled to convert from private to state control on Sept. 14, 2021.

3 State Prisons

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) was established in 1986 and built on 171 acres in Pearl in Rankin County. The facility was expanded in 1996 and now includes 18 housing units and 10 support buildings. CMCF is the first stop for individuals sentenced to the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC). It provides initial reception and classification.

Of the three state prisons, CMCF is the only facility to house female inmates and youthful inmates. Its population consists of both male and female inmates of all custody levels (minimum, medium, and close) to include female inmates sentenced to death.

Youthful inmates are housed in a separate facility. The Youthful Offender Unit (YOU) opened on Dec. 12, 2012, as a separate, independent facility to serve individuals under the age of 18. It offers a wide range of programs to include academic classes, vocational programs, mental health counseling, psychological and psychiatric services in a group and individual basis, alcohol and drug treatment, social services, religious and recreational services.

Mississippi Prison Industries Corp. (MPIC) operates a commercial print shop, a Johnson & Johnson Clean Room, which provides cleaning and sterilization of suture spools for its suture manufacturing operations, and a metal fabrication shop at CMCF.

MISSISSIPPI STATE PENITENTIARY

The Mississippi State Penitentiary (MSP) is the state's oldest institution, opening in 1901. It is located on approximately 18,000 acres at Parchman in Sunflower County. It has 58 support buildings and seven different housing units.

MSP houses male inmates are classified at all custody levels statutes to include protective custody, administrative segregation, administrative long-term segregation, and death row. The custody levels are minimum, medium, and close.

MSP holds a unique place in the prison system for reasons other than its age. MSP is also home to Mississippi Prison Industries Corp. (MPIC)'s work program for its textile and metal fabrication.

The majority of the farming activity involving Mississippi Prison Agricultural Enterprises (MPAE) takes place at MSP. MPAE supplies food to MSP, and all the other facilities in the prison system.

Additionally, unlike the other two state prisons, MSP has its own fully staffed infirmary.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

The South Mississippi Correctional Institution (SMCI), established in 1989, is the newest state prison in Mississippi.

SMCI sits on 360 acres at Leakesville in Greene County. It has 16 housing units. Male inmates are classified as minimum and medium are housed there as well as those in protective custody and long-term segregation.

Inmates also can work in the blueberry operations. The orchard was started at the prison in 2006 as a way to address inmate idleness and to teach inmates a trade skill in the blueberry industry. The blueberries help reduce food cost and serve as a healthier menu option.

How to contact the state prisons

MISSISSIPPI STATE PENITENTIARY

Physical Address: MS Highway 49 West

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1057

Parchman, MS 38738

(662) 745-6611

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Physical Address: 3794 MS Highway 468

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 88550

Pearl, MS 39208

(601) 932-2880

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

Physical Address: 22689 MS Highway 63 North

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1419

Leakesville, MS 39451

(601) 394-5600

Private Prisons

EAST MISSISSIPPI CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

10641 Highway 80 East
Meridian, MS 39307
(601) 485-5255

MARSHALL COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

833 West St
Holly Springs, MS 38635
(662) 252-7111

WILKINSON COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

20999 US Highway 61 North
Woodville, MS 39669
(601) 888-3199

Regional Facilities

ALCORN COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

2839 South Harper Rd
Corinth, MS 38834
(662) 286-7085

BOLIVAR COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

2792 MS Hwy 8 West
Cleveland, MS 38732
(662) 843-3284/2956

CARROLL-MONTGOMERY COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

33714 MS Highway 35
Vaiden, MS 39176
(662) 464-5440

CHICKASAW COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

120 Lancaster Circle
Houston, MS 38851
(662) 456-3319

GEORGE-GREENE COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

154 Industrial Park Rd
Lucedale, MS 39452
(601) 947-9399

HOLMES-HUMPHREYS COUNTY REGIONAL CORECTIONAL FACILITY

23234 MS Hwy 12 East
Lexington, MS 39095
(662) 834-5016

ISSAQUENA COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Post Office Box 220
Mayersville, MS 39113
(662) 873-2153

JEFFERSON-FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

279 MS Hwy 33
Post Office Box 218
Fayette, MS 39069
(601) 786-2284

KEMPER-NESHOBA COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

374 Stennis Industrial Park Rd.
Dekalb, MS 39328
(601) 743-5767

LEAKE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

399 C.O. Brooks Street
Carthage, MS 39051
(601) 298-9003

MARION-WALTHALL COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

503 South Main Street
Columbia, MS 39429
(601) 736-3621

STONE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

1420 Industrial Park Road
Wiggins, MS 39577
(601) 928-7042

WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

60 Stokes King Rd
Greenville, MS 38701
(662) 537-2000

WINSTON CHOCTAW COUNTY REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

22062 MS Hwy 25 North
Louisville, MS 39339
(662) 773-2528

YAZOO COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

154 Roosevelt Hudson Dr.
Yazoo City, MS 39194
(662) 751-8484 ext. 101 or 102

Programs

Adult Basic Education

The Adult Basic Education programs provide educational opportunities for inmates to take responsibility for developing their academic, work, and social competencies in order for them to become contributing, productive members of the prison community while incarcerated and contributing members of their communities upon release.

Youthful Offender Unit

The Youthful Offender Unit (YOU) School provides programming for male and female youth under the age of 18 sentenced to the Mississippi Department of Corrections. The school, located at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County, is designed to take a holistic approach to rehabilitation through behavior modification, mental health counseling, and education. Youthful inmates participate in comprehensive, interdisciplinary programming that is established on a weekly schedule. *The YOU School is accredited through the Mississippi Department of Education.*

Educational Credentials: Smart Start

The Mississippi Department of Corrections has partnered with the Department of Education to offer Smart Start, an educational and workforce development curriculum built around three components: (a) Basic Skills, (reading, writing, math) (b) Career Awareness, and (c) Necessary Skills (communication, work ethic, team building, etc.). The goal of Smart Start is to help inmates develop foundational skills needed for careers and to learn and practice good work habits and effective communication skills necessary for successful employment.

Vocational Education

Inmates can participate in the following vocational programs: Apparel & Textiles, Auto Body, Auto Mechanics, Barbering, Business, Technology, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Custodial Care, Diesel Mechanics, Electrical Engineering, Family Dynamics, Horticulture, HVAC, Plumbing/Pipefitting, Small Engine Repair, Upholstery, and Welding.

Incarcerated Veterans Program

The MDOC offers military veterans a holistic, full-service therapeutic community at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility. The goal of the Incarcerated Veterans Program is to reduce recidivism through development of job skills and employment placement prior to release. The program offers a 40-hour weekly curriculum that includes core courses and electives such as, Untangling Relationships, Be a Better Man General Session Lecture Series, Substance Abuse Education, Retrieving Freedom Dog Training, Victory Garden, and Reach Your Potential: Personal and Professional Development.

Inmate Legal Assistance Program

The Inmate Legal Assistance Program (ILAP) provides legal assistance to all inmates at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Central Mississippi Correctional Facility, South Mississippi Correctional Institution, private prison facilities, county/regional facilities, community work centers, or approved county jails. The goal of ILAP is to ensure that all inmates have an opportunity to meet with an attorney and/or paralegal. Inmates can receive computer-generated research and forms upon request.

Administrative Remedy Program

The Administrative Remedy Program allows an inmate to seek formal review of an issue relating to any aspect of his/her own confinement. The MDOC often utilizes this program to satisfy an inmate's grievance by explaining the relevant policy or practice. Inmates may submit a request for administrative remedy for situations arising from policies, conditions, or events that affect them personally.

Religious Program

The MDOC Religious Programs Department is comprised of chaplains and religious volunteers who serve inmates housed within the state, regional and private facilities. The mission of the Religious Services Department is to promote and deliver quality spiritual life services in the areas of worship leadership, religious education, and personal growth.

Theological Seminary

Through a partnership with the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, the MDOC provides inmates an opportunity to receive an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree in Christian Ministry. The ultimate goal of the seminary is to see moral rehabilitation occur. Graduates are used as agents of change through peer ministry and mentoring. The MDOC offers seminary programs at the Mississippi State Penitentiary for males and Central Mississippi Correctional Facility for females.



Institutional Operations

Custody and Security

1. How are inmates informed about rules and disciplinary procedures?

During orientation inmates are advised of rules and procedures that govern them while incarcerated. An inmate handbook is accessible to inmates at every facility. As such, when inmates have questions or concerns, they should refer to the handbook for guidance and proper procedure.

Families are encouraged to understand that part of the rehabilitation process for inmates while incarcerated is learning to accept responsibility for oneself. Therefore, inquiries should be initiated by the inmate through the appropriate staff member where he/she is assigned and not through a family member. Any correctional officer can assist inmates in understanding appropriate procedures.

2. How is an individual charged with a rule violation?

If a staff member witnesses or has knowledge of any act by an inmate that is in violation of the rules or posted policies, the employee will first attempt, if appropriate, to resolve the matter informally. If the situation cannot be resolved informally, the inmate will receive a Rule Violation Report. Inmates are served with notice of charges at least 24 hours prior to a hearing.

3. What are the punishments if an inmate is found guilty?

After a finding of guilt, the Disciplinary Officer may impose a penalty for each violation. Penalties may include extra duty, loss of privileges, loss of earned time, reclassification, or restrictive housing.

4. How does an inmate file a grievance about a particular issue?

Inmates are first encouraged to speak with staff if they have an issue of concern or need. However, if for some reason communicating with a staff member is not helpful, inmates are asked to put their concerns in writing and submit the letter to appropriate staff. If these methods are unsuccessful, inmates may address the issue through the Administrative Remedy Program (ARP).

The facilities housing state inmates have ARP through which an inmate may, in writing, request a formal review of a complaint related to any aspect of his/her incarceration. Through this procedure, inmates shall receive reasonable responses and, where appropriate, meaningful remedies.

5. Why are inmates transferred to different prisons?

Inmates are assigned to facilities based on custody classification, space availability, level of care designations (medical and/or mental health), and many other contributing factors. Inmates are placed in locations that best meet their needs and the space and security needs of the Department. Inmates may be transferred to different prisons for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to: investigations to medical, mental health, programs and classification issues.

Searches

6. How are inmates searched?

A general search of both person and property may be conducted at any time by an officer of the opposite gender. The nature of the search can include property and pat-down ("frisk" search) of a fully clothed inmate. Employees of the same sex as an inmate may perform a strip search of the inmate without the requirement of reasonable suspicion or probable cause. A search must be approved by a warden or higher-ranking employee in the chain of command. Strip searches are documented by employees. Visual body cavity searches are only permitted under strict circumstances. Officers may perform searches using drug-sniffing dogs at any time.

7. Can inmates have personal items?

Inmates can have personal items, including items provided for them by the facility and any items purchased in the canteen. Inmates will receive a list of allowable items.

Health Care

The MDOC provides a system for evaluating the health needs of inmates entering the system, transferring between facilities, and during their period of incarceration. The MDOC ensures that the health needs of the institution are met to ensure that inmates receive the proper housing and activity assignments. State inmates with significant medical needs are transferred from a regional or county jail to a state facility.

Inmates receive medical and mental health screenings during intake. These screenings include, but are not limited to, inquiry into the inmates' history of serious infectious or communicable illness, current illness and health problems, dental problems, substance use, possible pregnancy, and observation of behavior, mental status, skin conditions, and indications of drug use.

Inmates have access to both on-site and off-site health care, which includes specialty services such as hematology, oncology, gastroenterology, cardiology, dermatology, neurology, ophthalmology, and urology. Chronic care clinics are provided, as well as services for detection, diagnosis, and treatment of mental illness.

To ensure continuity of care, MDOC facilitates the Medicaid enrollment process for eligible persons prior to their release.

8. How does an inmate make a health care appointment?

Inmates request medical attention by completing a sick call request.

9. Do inmates pay for health care services?

Yes, a minimal co-pay of \$6 usually applies per visit.

However, if indigent, no inmate is denied services.

10. Can inmates use their family physician to provide medical services?

No, all medical services are provided by MDOC medical staff.

11. Can medication be sent to inmates while in prison?

No, all medication will be prescribed/administered by appropriate staff.

12. What if an inmate needs to be hospitalized?

Inmates are evaluated and, if necessary, will be transported to the appropriate hospital.

13. Are services available to pregnant inmates?

Yes. Regulations cover pregnancy care, which includes prenatal services, monitoring, etc.

14. What if treatment by a specialist is necessary?

Inmates referred to outside specialists can receive telemedicine services with appropriate specialist(s) or can be seen by a specialist in an on-site clinic.

15. Can I check on the medical status of my loved one?

Yes, but state and federal patient privacy laws require that you be listed on the inmate's Mississippi Department of Corrections Authorization for Release of Protected Health Information form. The form includes the names of any family or friends who can receive medical information regarding the inmate in event of an inquiry or emergency. Inmates are advised to complete this form during intake. State and federal law strictly prohibits the MDOC from providing any inmate's medical information to a person who is not included on the inmate's release form.

Mental Health

The MDOC requires that all inmates receive a mental health evaluation and inmates are assigned to housing based upon the results of their assessment. Based on their needs, inmates can see clinicians and psychiatrists while incarcerated. Mental Health also works closely with Probation & Parole to provide a continuum of care for inmates after their release.

16. How does an inmate receive mental health services?

Inmates are evaluated at intake and subsequently housed in a facility capable of handling the needed level of mental health services. Inmates see clinicians and psychiatrists on-site as necessary. Requests are also made via the sick call request form as well as referrals by medical and security staff.

17. What services are available to inmates with developmental disabilities?

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the MDOC provides inmates with equal access to housing, programs, services, and the use of facility resources, regardless of disability.

Food Services

18. What types of meals are served in prison?

The MDOC provides meals that are nutritionally balanced for all inmates. All meals are served in a manner that meets the Mississippi health and safety codes. There is a standardized menu developed by a qualified nutritionist or dietician to ensure the recommended daily allowances for nutrition are met, as suggested by federal guidelines.

19. Are therapeutic diets available?

Yes. Therapeutic diets are provided to those inmates whose clinical findings necessitate an alteration from the regular institutional diets as part of their medical treatment plan. Therapeutic diets must be prescribed by a health care practitioner. These meals are developed by a registered dietitian.

20. Are there special meals for holidays?

Yes.

21. Who cooks the meals served in prison?

Inmates and/or contracted food service staff

Inmate Banking

22. Can Prisoners have money in prison?

No. The MDOC is a cashless system. Funds are managed through inmate banking. (See page 16)

23. Are inmates paid for work while incarcerated?

Yes. Inmates participating in the MPIC program are eligible to earn certain wages for their work. These rates are determined by state laws. Please note that there are different jobs while imprisoned, and those different jobs may have differing payments and wages. Earned funds are deposited into the inmate's account.

24. Do inmates receive their money when released?

Yes. Inmates receive their funds immediately after release. If an inmate is released to another facility, his/her funds follow him/her. Inmates are not released with cash.

25. Can inmates buy personal items?

Yes. State inmates can purchase limited hygiene, food, and other personal items through canteens at each prison. The privilege of purchasing items is based on an inmate's behavior and custody level. The MDOC reviews and modifies items placed on the canteen order form for purchase on a quarterly basis.

Victim Services and SAVIN

Mission Statement

The Division of Victim Services (DVS) assists victims during the criminal justice process, providing sustainable services through collaborative efforts.

Overview

The DVS provides services to victims of inmates under the jurisdiction and/or supervision of the Mississippi Department of Corrections. The victims or designees must be registered to receive inmate information to include release from custody, status of interstate compact, consideration for medical release, status of supervision, parole review and disposition. Additional services are available including accompanying victims to parole meetings, providing referrals, collecting victim impact statements and letters, and assisting with complaints.

The Mississippi Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN), which offers access to state and county status changes, is also available. Search and registration are available online by accessing www.vinelink.com, or by 24hr operator assistance by calling 888-9-MSSAVIN, TTY 866-847-1298 for the hearing impaired.

Victims or designees must complete the DVS registration form to receive services and exercise their rights. All applicants are verified by DVS/SAVIN prior to acceptance.



Pre-Release

The Pre-Release Program is designed to prepare inmates for a successful re-entry upon their release from incarceration. While incarcerated, inmates are offered programs and services that will assist them in becoming a productive member of their communities. The programs and services provided are designed to focus on improving the inmate's employability and social and human relations skills in order to facilitate a successful reintegration back into the community.

Vision:

- To provide proper release planning and connecting inmates with the appropriate services and support systems in the releasing communities.

Goals:

- To ensure the assessment of clients for risk needs related to recidivism through evidence-based programming.
- To provide support and services that will increase the opportunity for a successful reintegration and success as citizens.
- To provide inmates with access to employment opportunities after release by offering access to job readiness and employment services.

During the last six months to one year of an inmate's incarceration, it is crucial that the inmate receives adequate pre-release planning to minimize risks, such as lack of access to educational opportunities, homelessness, unemployment, inability to afford medical care, and lack of transportation. All of these are covered in the Adult Education, Smart Start, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), and Thinking for A Change curriculums.

- Adult Education provides educational opportunities for inmates to develop and/or enhance their academic skill levels. As participants increase their skill levels, they will work towards receiving a High School Equivalency (HSE).
- Smart Start prepares participants for skilled level employment. Participants will develop employability skills and learn and practice good work habits and effective communication necessary for successful employment, such as career awareness, communication, team work, problem solving, critical thinking, and employer expectations. Participants can test for the National Career Readiness Certificates (NCRC).
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) is an effective systematic, cognitive-behavioral approach that treats a wide range of issues including substance abuse, domestic violence, trauma, parenting, and job skills.
- Thinking for a Change (T4C) incorporates research from cognitive restructuring theory, social skills development, and the learning and use of problem-solving skills. T4C is comprised of 25 lessons that build upon each other, and contains appendices that can be used to craft an aftercare program to meet ongoing cognitive behavioral needs of your group. Ideally, the curriculum is delivered two times per week, with a minimum recommended dosage of once per week and a maximum of three times per week.



Prior to an inmate's release, if eligible, he or she will receive the following:

- Valid Identification Documents (state identification card, Social Security Card, and birth certificate),
- Medicaid,
- Social Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI),
- SNAP Benefits.

Referrals for participation in the pre-release program can be made by MDOC staff or self-referrals via letter to the unit case manager.

Re-entry Programs

The Re-entry Program is a comprehensive program designed to assist inmates in identifying career interest, developing resumes, conducting job searches, becoming financially aware, and developing new positive behaviors that will affect their real world experience. Inmates who undergo re-entry programming are privy to an array of programs and services such as:

- MDOC's Commercial Driver's License Program — The curriculum includes a combination of technical skill development, soft-skills training, vocational education and eight (8) days of an on-site CDL instructor, hands-on classroom instruction, and a tractor trailer simulator that prepares inmates for truck driving training.
- Vital Record and Benefit(s) Application and Submission — Re-entry specialists assist inmates to obtain items needed for successful community re-entry such as Social Security cards, birth certificates, driver's license/identification cards, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Social Security and Medicaid benefits.
- Second Chance Act Re-entry Initiatives — Assistance includes interdisciplinary treatment planning services and re-entry support for inmates with a mental illness and substance use disorder. The assistance is supported by a grant that is fully funded by the Bureau of Justice within the U.S. Department of Justice.
- Empowering People Illuminating Change (EPIC) — The MDOC, in a joint venture with the Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH), created the MDOC's first Medication Assisted Treatment program. Its purpose is to treat inmates who suffer from opioid abuse/addiction. Vivitrol is utilized for intervention.

As participants, inmates are assessed and supported by a multi-disciplinary clinical assessment team including case managers, educators, parole/probation agents, psychiatrists, nurses and allied health staff who help to triage inmates' biological, psychological and social needs. The clinical assessment team works with inmates while incarcerated and up to 12 months after release to provide support resources needed to ensure the inmates' overall wellness and successful community re-integration.



Change Your Thoughts ; Change Your World

Community Corrections Facilities

Community Work Centers

Community Work Centers (CWC) house minimum custody inmates. This program allows eligible inmates to work approved jobs in the community while they are still incarcerated. Inmates routinely perform work for cities, counties, state agencies and charitable organizations as defined by 501(c)3. Some examples of the jobs include janitorial work, mechanic work, and beautification of roadsides. Participants can re-establish dignity and self-esteem and participation helps their transition back into the community as responsible adults.

In addition to employment requirements, participants are encouraged and, in some cases, mandated to attend educational substance abuse and job skills programs. Inmates are drug tested often. Failing a drug test results in a rule violation.

The Community Work Centers have been shown to reduce recidivism by:

- Providing new job skills and positive work habits.
- Reunification of the family prior to release.

How does an inmate get assigned to a community work center?

Several criteria include, but are not limited to:

- Inmates must be within eight years of their earliest release date.
- Inmates must pass a drug test.
- Inmates must be able to physically perform the work required.
- Inmates must be free of rule violations for three months.

There are several factors that automatically disqualify inmates from community work centers. Inmates convicted of the following charges are disqualified:

- Escape or attempt in the last five years;
- Sex crime convictions;
- Child abuse or crime convictions involving a minor or handicapped person;
- Arson;
- Carrying a concealed weapon;
- Convictions of a concealed weapon; and
- Violent or sexual offenses which received a plea bargain to a non-violent crime

Technical Violation Centers

The MDOC operates an alternative sanction program for male and female parole and probation technical violators. A technical violation is the act or omission by the probationer/parolee that violates a condition or conditions of probation/parole placed by the Court, Parole Board, or the Probation Agent. The Technical Violation Center (TVC) is where violators are housed to undergo the sanctioned programs.

The Commissioner or designee determines the location and bed capacity of each TVC.

- Flowood (CWC) 50 females
- Delta Correctional Facility 324 males

The MDOC provides programs and services equipped to address the underlying factors that led to the violation as identified based on the result of a risk and needs assessment.

Each TVC includes the following programs and services:

- Alcohol and Drug Programming which has shown to reduce recidivism and reduction in the use of illicit substances or alcohol.
- Employment Preparation & Training Programs
- Cognitive Behavioral Programs
- Education Programs

Time allotted in the sanction program is determined by the court or the Parole Board and usually ranges between 90-180 days.

Restitution Centers

MDOC Restitution Center programs provide an alternative to incarceration for minimal risk individuals who are in need of a more structured environment rather than that of standard probation. Individuals serving time in a restitution center are referred to as residents rather than inmates.

Residents are court-ordered for the restitution programs and are required to work and pay full or partial payments to crime victims. Also, residents pay room and board fees and court fees and may establish a savings account. They are also required to perform a minimum of 40 hours of community service.

Restitution center programs concentrate on behavior modification, address educational needs and alcohol and drug dependency, and help residents develop work ethics and financial responsibility.

MDOC currently has two restitution centers:

- Delta Correctional Facility (male)
- Flowood Restitution Center (female)

How is a resident sentenced to a restitution center?

Individuals can be classified to a restitution center three ways:

- Through initial sentencing by a judge
- Modification of probation
- Released from custody (Parole or ERS) prior to completion of their sentence

Candidates are screened for acceptance to the program prior to sentencing. In addition, other criteria must be met including:

- Offenders must not have a drug, alcohol, or emotional problem so serious that they appear unlikely to be able to meet obligation of restitution sentence;
- Offenders must be in a good mental and physical health;
- Offender must be employable; and
- Offender must have a sincere desire to participate in the restitution program.

The duration of this program varies. However, it is traditionally six months. In some instances early dismissal can occur if the program is completed and/or fines and fees are paid.

Community Corrections Facility Locations

Technical Violation Centers
Delta Correctional Facility
 Greenwood, Leflore County

Flowood Technical Violation Center
 Flowood, Rankin County

Restitution Centers
Greenwood Restitution Center
 Greenwood, Leflore County

Flowood Restitution Center
 Flowood, Rankin County

Community Work Centers

Delta Corr. Facility CWC
 Greenwood, Leflore County

Noxubee Co. CWC
 Macon

Quitman Co. CWC
 Lambert

Flowood CWC
 Flowood, Rankin County

Madison Co. CWC
 Canton

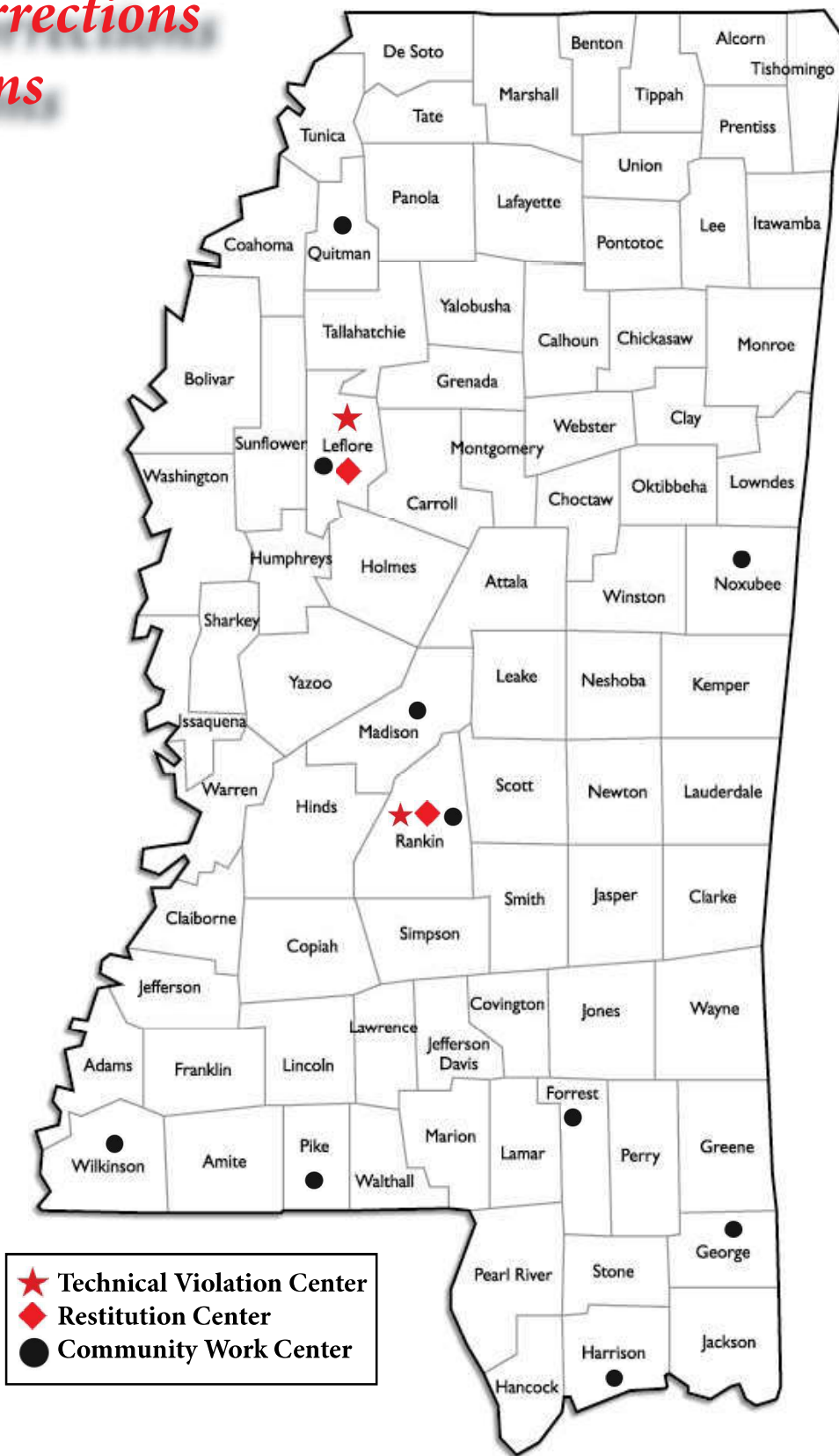
Pike Co. CWC
 Magnolia

Wilkinson Co. CWC
 Woodville

Forrest Co. CWC
 Hattiesburg

George Co. CWC
 Lucedale

Harrison Co. CWC
 Gulfport



Community Work Centers

Region I

DELTA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CWC
3800 Baldwin Road CR 540
Greenwood, MS 38930
Office (662)-455-7277
Fax (662) 455-7300

NOXUBEE COUNTY CWC
212 Industrial Park Road
Macon, MS 39341
Office (662) 726-2375
Fax (662) 726-2374

QUITMAN COUNTY CWC
Route 1 Box 246
Lambert, MS 38643
Office (662) 326-6298
Fax (662) 326-6298

Region II

FLOWOOD CWC
1632 Hwy 80 East
Flowood, MS 39232
Office (601) 936-7213
Fax (601) 936-7216

MADISON COUNTY CWC
140 Corrections Drive
Canton, MS 39046
Office (601) 859-7711
Fax (601) 859-5360

PIKE COUNTY CWC
2015 Jesse Hall Rd
Magnolia, MS 39652
Office (601) 783-5514
Fax (601) 783-3995

WILKINSON COUNTY CWC
84 Prison Lane
Woodville, MS 39669
Office (601) 888-4378
Fax (601) 888-4355

Region III

FORREST COUNTY CWC
112 Alcorn Avenue
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Office (601) 544-5030
Fax (601) 584-4064

Restitution Centers

DELTA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
3800 Baldwin Road, CR 540
Greenwood, MS 38930
Office (662) 455-7277
Fax (662) 455-7300

FLOWOOD RESTITUTION CENTER
1632 Highway 80 East
Flowood, MS 39232
Office (601) 936-7213
Fax (601) 936-7216

Technical Violation Centers

DELTA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY (TVC)
3400 Baldwin County Road 540
Greenwood, MS 38930
Office (662) 455-7277
Fax (662) 455-7300

FLOWOOD TECHNICAL VIOLATION CENTER
1632 Highway 80 East
Flowood, MS 39232
Office (601) 936-7213
Fax (601) 936-7216

Community Supervision

Probation & Parole

The Mississippi Department of Corrections Community Corrections Division provides for public safety; promotes opportunities for positive behavioral change in the individuals under supervision; secures provisions for community-based assistance and services needed; decreases criminal behavior and recidivism; and serves as an alternative to incarceration.

The division has three regions: North (I), Central (II), and South (III). Probation and parole agents are certified and responsible for the supervision of people who are released on probation, parole, Intensive Supervision Program ISP (house arrest), and Earned Release Supervision (ERS). Agents also supervise people who relocate to Mississippi from other states through Interstate Compact.

The agents' main goal is public safety and to reduce recidivism. Therefore, successful re-entry is key. While on parole, an individual is supervised by an agent and must follow certain conditions as mandated by the Parole Board. Any deviation from the conditions could result in return to incarceration. An agent's objective is to keep the individual in the community once he/she is released. To do so, agents ensure those on supervision abide by conditions of supervision, identify problems and solutions, make appropriate referrals, provide general counseling, and perform arrests as needed to protect the public.

Agents maintain contact in individuals' homes, places of employment, through family and friends, as well as in the agent's office. Agents use a variety of intermediate sanctions when violations occur.

Agents also provide pre-sentence investigations to decision-makers in the criminal justice system, including judges and Parole Board members. They also oversee the collection of victim restitution, supervision fees, and a variety of court imposed fines and fees.

Earned Release Supervision

When an individual is sentenced to serve time, an Earned Release Supervision (ERS) date is calculated based on an individual serving a percentage of his/her sentence, which correlates with applicable laws. For example, an offender may be required to serve 85 percent of a sentence in a facility and is eligible to serve the remaining 15 percent on ERS, if the crime was committed on or after July 1, 1995.

Many factors are considered in calculating an inmate's ERS eligibility date. For instance, an inmate's behavior while incarcerated is a key factor that is reviewed by the classification committee. ***An ERS date does not mean an inmate will be released on that date.***

When an inmate is near his/her ERS date, he/she receives a letter from MDOC. Once the inmate receives this letter, then it is his/her responsibility to provide a residence address. Once the address is received, the address is then given to the probation/parole agent who will inspect the residence, meet with any family members that the inmate will be living with, etc., and ultimately determine if the residence is acceptable for the inmate to live while on ERS.

Any individual under ERS retains inmate status and remains under the jurisdiction of MDOC. Inmates under ERS are not allowed to leave the state of Mississippi at any time during his/her ERS. If an inmate violates any conditions of ERS, the inmate has to serve the remainder of the sentence in a facility. Any time served on ERS is not applied to the sentence or used to reduce a sentence.

In case of a violation of conduct, the inmate is arrested, returned to MDOC and given a classification hearing by a classification committee officer. If the inmate is found not guilty of the violation, the inmate may be returned to the original status on ERS.

Conditional Medical Release

The Commissioner and the department's Chief Medical Director may place a nonviolent inmate on conditional medical release (CMR) regardless of time served. Violent inmates must serve at least one (1) year of their sentence before being eligible for CMR. Inmates convicted of a sex crime are not eligible.

The Commissioner will not place an inmate on CMR unless the Chief Medical Officer certifies to the Commissioner that (a) the inmate is suffering from a significant permanent physical medical condition with no possibility of recovery; (b) that his/her further incarceration will serve no rehabilitative purposes; and (c) that the state would incur unreasonable expenses as a result of his/her continued incarceration.

Any inmate placed on CMR shall be supervised by the Division of Community Corrections for the remainder of their sentence. An inmate's CMR may be revoked and the inmate returned and placed in actual custody of the department if the inmate violates an order or condition of CMR.

Interstate Compact

The MDOC is a member of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision, which includes eligible jurisdictions within the United States and its territories. The Interstate Compact Division monitors the supervision of individuals within the state of Mississippi and member states.

Probationers and parolees may submit an application for transfer to another state by contacting their probation/parole agent, case manager, or parole releasing authorities. Several compact forms must be completed and an application fee of \$50 must be submitted at the time the transfer is requested.

Intensive Supervision Program

Intensive Supervision Program (ISP), commonly referred to as "house arrest," is an alternative program to incarceration. Individuals sentenced to house arrest must wear an electronic monitoring device at all times. Depending on the sentence, individuals are required to be at home during certain times of the day. If at any time an individual is not at home during the required curfew, an ISP agent is immediately notified. If necessary, a warrant is issued for arrest if the individual is not at the required location and considered to have escaped.

An individual can be sentenced to ISP only by a judge. House Bill 585 became effective July 1, 2014, and removed the MDOC's authority to release individuals on house arrest.

Mississippi State Parole Board

The Mississippi State Parole Board is an integral part of the criminal justice system. It consists of five members, one of whom is the chairman. All members are appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the Mississippi Senate. The Board has exclusive responsibility for the granting and revocation of parole.

The Board reviews cases and develops plans, stipulations, conditions and terms for release or integration for each inmate. The Board can grant parole, refuse parole, or revoke the parole of those individuals convicted of a felony, sentenced to the custody of the MDOC and deemed eligible under the Mississippi Code of 1972.

The Board can be reached at 601-576-3520.

What is Parole?

Parole is a carefully constructed bridge between incarceration and return to the community. It is by no means an automatic release. The conditional release involves a careful review of information and assessment of risk. This requires that Board members review the facts of a case and decide whether an inmate may be permitted to return to the community before the end of the incarceration term.

Parole allows some individuals to continue to serve the balance of their sentence outside of an institution. It doesn't mean that inmates are completely free while under supervision. It does mean that they have an opportunity under the supervision and assistance of a parole agent to become contributing members of society providing they abide by the conditions of their release. If the conditions of parole are not followed, the Board has the power to revoke the parole and return the individual to prison.

What is the parole process?

Parole is granted when the Parole Board members are satisfied that the inmate being considered is capable of being a law-abiding citizen. Parole hearings are scheduled on a monthly basis providing sufficient time to consider every inmate who is eligible ninety (90) days preceding his/her parole eligibility date. A quorum of Board members must be present.

A parole hearing is a hearing to determine whether an inmate should be released from prison to parole supervision in the community for the remainder of the sentence. Parole depends on various factors including an inmate criminal history, crime, crime commit date, and sentence. Some inmates may be eligible for parole consideration after serving a portion of their sentence.

Although an inmate may be eligible for parole, it is not guaranteed that inmate will be granted parole. Whether an inmate is released is within the complete discretion of the Mississippi State Parole Board. A list of all inmates eligible for parole is generated each month and sent to the Parole Board. When considering whether to grant or deny parole, the Board considers a multitude of factors including, but not limited to, the following:

- Severity of offense
- Number of offenses committed
- Psychological and/or psychiatric history
- Disciplinary action while incarcerated
- Community support or opposition
- Amount of time served
- Prior misdemeanor or felony conviction(s)
- Police and/or juvenile record
- History of drug or alcohol abuse
- History of violence
- Crimes committed while incarcerated
- Escape history
- Participation in rehabilitative programs
- Arrangements for employment and/or residence
- Whether the inmate served in the United States Armed Forces and received an honorable discharge

****Victims and family members of victims can make impact statements to the Parole Board.***

What is clemency?

The Mississippi Constitution grants the Governor the power of executive clemency, meaning he/she can pardon an individual for criminal offenses or commute the sentence of an individual to a lesser sentence. The Governor can grant clemency to show mercy to an individual, address a specific injustice, or correct disproportionate punishment of an entire class of inmates. This power is completely discretionary and is often viewed as an extraordinary and exceptional remedy.

The clemency request process includes several steps. First, a person must submit a completed application for clemency to the office of the Governor and then have published for thirty (30) days in a newspaper in the county where the crime was committed. The Governor may decide to grant, deny, or take no action. There are no time requirements on the Governor to make this decision.

An application for clemency can be requested from the Office of the Governor, Legal Division, at P. O. Box 139 Jackson, MS 39205-0139.

There are two types of clemency requests:

- **Pardon**

Pardons occur post-incarceration. To apply, an individual must have completed his/her sentence and be free of any fines or court costs. A governor's pardon forgives a person for a crime.

- **Commutation of sentence**

Commutation occurs during imprisonment. A commutation of sentence reduces the inmate's sentence duration to allow for early or immediate release. Immediate release occurs if the inmate has already served the length of the commuted (shortened) sentence.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How can I request for an inmate to be transferred to a different facility to be closer to family?

A. Only the superintendent or warden can submit an inter-facility transfer or a classification officer may arrange inmate transfers. Approval can depend on the inmate's progress in rehabilitation or meeting program requirements, plus the availability of bed space and the inmate's conduct. The inmate should make this request through his or her case manager.

2. Are inmates allowed to attend a funeral? If so, what is the process?

A. No. However emergency leave is allowed to attend visitation or wakes when circumstances allow, pending approval.

3. What do I do if the Commissary is not accepting my funds for an inmate?

A. The inmate may be in the classification process whereas he or she can only receive personal hygiene products. Also, any violations of prison rules can result in restrictions.

4. What information can I obtain about an individual in MDOC custody, if I am not a family member (i.e. girlfriend/boyfriend or fiancé)?

A. MDOC personnel cannot provide information about inmates to non-family members. Individuals seeking information should have a family member of the inmate contact MDOC. Family members need to be on an inmate's contact list.

5. How can I find out how much time an inmate has to serve and what credits he or she can receive?

A. Check the MDOC website and search for the inmate by name or ID number.

Contact the inmate by written letter for information on what credits an inmate is eligible to receive.

The inmate can contact his/her assigned case manager for this information.

6. Whom do I speak with about an inmate's parole eligibility?

A. You may contact the Mississippi State Parole Board at 601-576-3520.

7. Whom do I speak with to find out why an inmate's parole request was denied?

A. You may contact the Mississippi State Parole Board at 601-576-3520.

8. How can I find out the exact release date of an inmate so I can arrange to pick up the person, and what arrangements should I make?

A. The inmate's case manager will notify him or her of his or her release date and ask the inmate about travel plans. The information is then verified.

B. If an inmate requests to travel by bus, a ticket is purchased on his/her behalf to the destination or the nearest city of the destination. MDOC, however, does not purchase tickets for out of state travel.

C. The release process can take anywhere from 30 to 45 days. An inmate must receive a discharge certificate before being released. An inmate should keep in contact with his or her case manager, and when notified of the release date, relay that information to family and friends on the inmate's contact list.

9. Why hasn't an inmate been released on the expected release date?

A. Parole and ERS dates are not guaranteed release dates. The inmate must meet the eligibility requirements for those programs as outlined in MDOC policy and by law.

10. Who is responsible for overseeing house arrest and how can an inmate be placed on house arrest?

A. House arrest is a function of the Circuit Courts. Contact the sentencing judge or the Court.

MDOC cannot grant house arrest; however, agents supervise individuals on house arrest.

11. I haven't heard from [an inmate] for a long time whereas we once talked regularly. How can I find out if he/she is ok?

A. In most cases, the prison chaplain of the facility where the inmate is located can assist you.

12. How can I find out the status of a request for address approval?

A. The inmate should make a request through his/her case manager for the status of the approval.

13. Whom do I speak with about medical issues regarding an inmate?

A. Federal privacy laws prevent MDOC and its medical provider, VitalCore, from discussing inmate medical conditions. VitalCore can be reached at 601-499-5660 for questions about medical services.

14. How can I find out about an inmate's eligibility date for Earned Release Supervision (ERS)?

A. Contact the inmate's case manager. Also, inmates are given a timesheet showing his/her eligibility date.

15. How can I find out the reason an inmate's ERS was denied?

A. Whether an inmate is released on ERS includes the following factors: Complete history of institutional conduct; program participation; severity of offense; victim/community opposition; time served; and gang activity during current incarceration. One or a combination of these factors can affect ERS status.

16. How do I find out who an inmate's case manager is and how to contact him/her?

A. You may call Offender Services at the facility where the inmate is located.

17. Whom do I contact about problems getting payments to go through Western Union for paying supervision fees?

A. Contact Fiscal Caseload Management at 662-489-7628 or contact Helen Valentine at 662-489-7628.

18. How do I get information to an inmate who has had a death in the family?

A. The prison chaplain of the facility where the inmate is located will contact the inmate for you.

19. I have been released from incarceration and still have money left on my inmate banking account. How do I get this money returned to me?

A. Contact Premier Services at 601-326-2590 to make the necessary arrangements.

20. How are arrangements made to have an inmate served with legal papers?

A. Contact the Inmate Legal Assistance Program office where the inmate is housed.

21. An inmate is scheduled to be released but there is a hold or detainer. Whom do I speak with about the hold or detainer?

A. Contact the Records Office at Parchman at 662-745-6611 ext. 2508

22. If I am a victim of an inmate's crime, whom do I speak with regarding that inmate and what information am I entitled to have?

A. You may contact the MDOC Division of Victim Services at 601-359-5628 or 601-359-5759.

23. How do I report my opposition to an inmate being released on parole, ERS, or conditional medical release (CMR)?

A. You may contact the Mississippi State Parole Board for parole releases or the MDOC Division of Victim Services for releases on ERS or CMR.

24. How can an individual under supervision find out who their probation/parole agent is?

A. The offender should contact the probation/parole office of the county where he/she is assigned.

25. How can I change who serves as my probation/parole agent?

A. The offender should request to speak to the current agent's supervisor.

Terms and Definitions

Classification: A process for determining the needs and requirements of those for whom incarceration has been ordered and for assignment to appropriate housing units and programs.

Criminogenic Needs: Criminogenic needs are characteristics, traits, problems or issues of an individual that directly relate to the individual's likelihood to commit another crime. These are also structural elements of a person's life that personally led them to commit a crime.

Criminogenic Risk: Risk factors that research shows increase an inmate's likelihood of recidivating and returning to incarceration.

Custody Level: The type of housing and the level of supervision required for an inmate. Custody assignments shall reflect public safety as the priority, staff and inmate safety within the institution as the second priority and finally, institutional or inmate needs. Other factors will also be considered in all classification decisions.

Division of Victims Services (DVS): A Division that offers crime victims easy access to information and registrations.

Earned Release Supervision: A program based on an inmate serving a percentage of his/her sentence, which correlates with applicable laws

Expiration of Sentence: Upon the completion of the "full-term" of the sentence, a person is released. No additional supervision is imposed after release.

Graduated Sanctions: Intermediate penalties (jail or non-jail) used for various violations committed by a person on probation or parole in lieu of returning to prison. These sanctions are enforced by the Probation and Parole Agents.

High Risk: A classification designation for an inmate that is based on the score on the validated Risk/Needs Assessment tool.

Parole: A term of early release granted by the Parole Board from physical custody to community supervision.

Parole Eligibility Date: The earliest date the inmate is eligible for parole release. The release date is only valid if parole is first granted by the Parole Board. ***The parole eligibility date is NOT a release date.***

Reception & Classification (R & C): The admission procedure by which an inmate is evaluated, tested, and interviewed. The inmate's security level, custody level, and risk need assessment shall determine the inmate's permanent facility assignment in accordance with Agency regulations.

Re-entry: The process of transitioning an inmate back into the community from imprisonment, probation, or parole supervision.

Restitution: In the criminal justice system this term means payment by an inmate to the victim for harm caused by the inmate's wrongful acts. Courts have the authority to order restitution payment to victims as part of their sentences.

Victim Impact Statement: A statement that describes the emotional, physical, and/or spiritual impact a crime has on the victim, the victim's family, and/or the community.

Violation: Any behavior, actions, or inaction that goes against the conditions of supervision.

Acknowledgements

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Front Cover - Breaking through the walls - *Jared Rebold*

Page 10 - State of Mississippi Outline - *Kim Daily*

Page 34 - Magnolia Flower - *Charlie Smith*

Back Cover - Bird of Freedom - *Sara Koch*

* The photo on Page 27 is of graduates of the New Orleans Theological Seminary Program during a ceremony in 2018 at Mississippi State Penitentiary.

For Your Information . . .

Whenever a family member or friend of an inmate calls the MDOC, it is always a good idea to have certain information readily available. It is likely that whoever answers the call will need this information to best serve you. Therefore, you are encouraged to record information below so you will have it handy when you call with concerns or questions about your loved one who is in our custody or under supervision.

Full name of inmate/offender _____

Inmate ID # _____ ****This is an important number. Please have it ready whenever you call. This is how we look up inmates/offenders to see their records. A person will have the same inmate I.D. number throughout their incarceration.***

Date of Birth _____

Social Security # _____ ****Chances are that we will not need to ask for this if the person's birthdate and/or inmate I.D. are provided. It is better to have it just in case, though.***

Housing location(s) _____

****Inmates are often moved frequently for various reasons. It is best to have a written record of their locations and when they were there. (Facility, Area, Building, Zone, Bed)***

Eligible Parole Date _____ Eligible Earned Release Date _____

****If you call to obtain release date information, you may record it here. Keep in mind that dates for an inmate seen on our web site or obtained by phone are only when inmates become eligible for release, these are NOT release dates unless specifically indicated otherwise.***

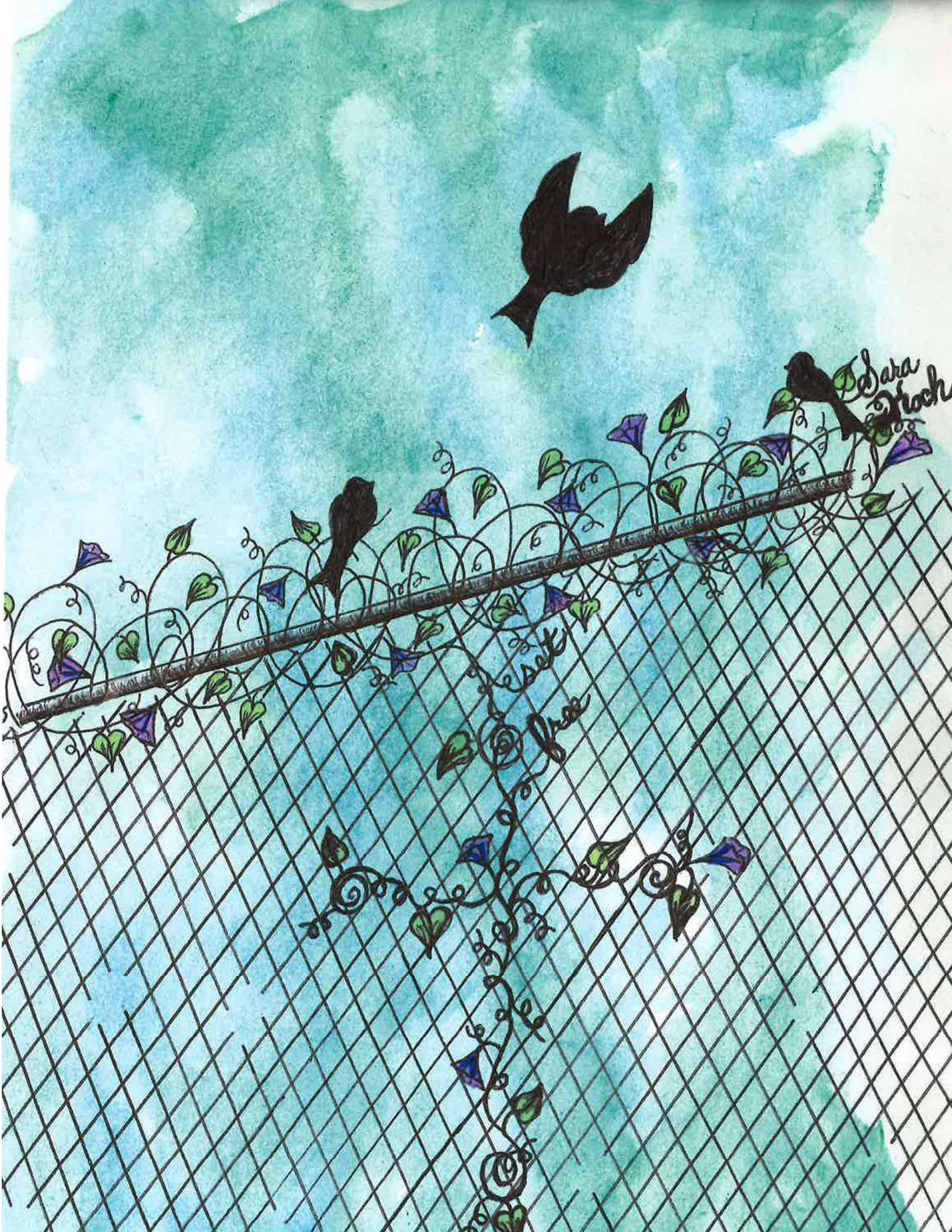
Inmate's mailing address: _____ (Name, ID#)
_____ (Location in facility)
_____ (MDOC facility)
_____ (City, State, Zip)

Probation/Parole Agent's name _____ Phone _____

Probation/Parole assigned county _____ Address _____

Area Supervisor's name _____ Phone _____

NOTES:



Sara
Hoch